

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

4-H and The Maui Farm: A Perfect Match

It's a triumph when any 4-Header earns a trophy at a livestock event, culminating months of hard work and loving attention to the animals. When the trophy winner comes from The Maui Farm, as did four at the last Upcountry Fair in Makawao, the triumph is that much sweeter. The Maui Farm is a temporary home for special youth who need some structured time away from their families. Six years ago, The Maui Farm joined the 4-H livestock program, a CTAHR Cooperative Extension program advised by agent John Powley. Powley works with The Maui Farm programs director Donna Vida, herself a 4-H alumna, to help The Maui Farm residents plan their projects, care for their animals, and interact with youth in the wider community. The alliance between 4-H and The Maui Farm is a natural. The goals of the two organizations for their youthful participants are nearly identical and boil down to this: to help them become caring, contributing, responsible citizens who strive to do no harm to anything or anyone, including themselves. CTAHR's 4-H livestock program benefits all its participants and, lest it seem all work and no play, is a lot of fun to boot. For those at The Maui Farm, it can also be a path to a new life.

For residents at The Maui Farm, CTAHR's 4-H livestock program can be a path to a new life.



The Maui Farm residents and their animals.

